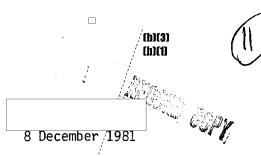


APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE: 02-Apr-2009



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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of the House Task Force on American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, 8 December 1981

1. On 8 December 1981, Admiral B. R. Inman, DDCI, briefed Members of the House Task Force on American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia on efforts by the Intelligence Community to gather information on POW/MIAs. Admirals E. A. Burkhalter, Deputy Director/DIA, and A. G. Paulson, Assistant Vice-Director for Collection Management/DIA, briefed the Members on recent reportings on POW/MIA sightings. The briefing was held in Room 2218 Rayburn House Office Building from 1030 hours to 1215 hours. The House Sergeant at Arms conducted a technical sweep prior to the briefing. There was no transcript.

ding	from 1030 hours to 1215 hours. The House Sergeant at Arms conducted sweep prior to the briefing. There was no transcript.
2.	Members present from the Task Force were:
	Robert K. Dornan (R., CA), Chairman Robert Lagomarsino (R., CA) John LeBoutillier (R., NY)
	Also attended:
	William Hendon (R., NC) W. Henson Moore (R., LA) Bob Stump (D., AZ)
3.	Present from the staff were:
	Adrienne Cordova, Representative Dornan's staff Kathryn Hartnett, Representative Gilman's staff (both for DIA portion only)
4.	Present from the State Department was:
	Barbara Harvey, Vietnam Desk (for DIA portion only)
5.	Present from DIA were:
	Ken Geisen Lt. Col. John Ferr, ISA Lt. Col. Jack Kennedy, DIA
6.	Present from CIA were:
E	Admiral Bobby R. Inman, Deputy Director of Central Intelligence J. William Doswell, D/External Affairs Staff Legislative Liaison
	SECRET



7. Chairman Dornan began the briefing wit individual whose information at first seemed re review, however, the Chairman had discredited t cated that they had come to the same conclusion Paulson to give the group an update on any sign their last briefing in June 1981.	liable. Upon more careful he information. DIA indi- . He then asked Admiral	
8. Admiral Poulson commented on remains o to the U.S. by Laos last July and explained the to convey by their return. He summarized recen conducted with individuals who claim to have si was that in spite of their on-going efforts ver about POW/MIAs has materialized recently. Chai extent to which Private Edward Garwood, USMC, h deserters who filter back to the U.S. are quest	message that the Lao intended t interviews which have been ghted caucasians. His conclusion y little positive information rman Dornan asked about the as been debriefed and whether	
9. Admiral Inman explained how the collec obtaining information and verification once a p He gave details on the volume, nature, and capa against this target in recent years. He said t information but that so-called soldiers of fort deal of inaccurate information.	ossible POW site is located. bilities of collection efforts hat there was not much good	
10. There were several related issues discussed during the briefing. Chairman Dornan said he had heard from Ann Mills Griffith and another reliable source that there was a covert search plan that had been disapproved at the highest level in DIA. Admiral Paulson responded to the item. Representative Moore mentioned an individual who had come to him for assistance in getting employment with CIA or DIA so that he could carry out a project. Admiral Inman told him that we were able to document that the individual's story was false. There was a question about whether the Government could act quickly if necessary to launch a search mission and the Members were assured that there are appropriate mechanisms to do so. There were also comments about the border areas. In conclusion, Admiral Inman assured the members that the POW/MIA problem is receiving attention but that there is little reason for optimism. His suggestion that the POW/MIA families be made aware of this was well received by the Members. Chairman Dornan seemed impressed with the lack of optimism expressed by the briefers.		
	Legisiacive Liaison	
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